



# Clinical Congress News

The American College of Surgeons • 81st Clinical Congress • October 22-27, 1995 • New Orleans

## Presidential Address

### Call for reaffirmation of fealty

**"A**s Fellows, we plight our troth to surgery. We are most confirmed in our love for this noble and honorable discipline when there is a reaffirmation of fealty to the principles upon which the College was founded in 1913—dedicated to the ethical and competent practice of surgery and the provision of high-quality care for the surgical patient," LaSalle D. Leffall, Jr., MD, FACS, the newly installed President of the College, said in his Presidential Address last evening.

Dr. Leffall told the audience that surgeons "should reject the thesis of providers who give health care to *clients*

or *customers*. We are surgeons, and we treat patients. There is no closer, more reverent, or more honored bond than the one that exists between surgeons and their patients."

During the presentation, "Reaffirmation of Fealty—To Serve All," which he delivered at the conclusion of Convocation ceremonies in the Riverside Hilton and Towers, Dr. Leffall outlined four major areas in which the College can assist surgeons in the practice of their profession.

First, he said, the College should assist surgeons in making the managed care system responsive to the needs of patients and surgeons, ensuring the highest quality surgical care.

Second, the College should maintain the integrity and viability of general surgery—"that fundamental discipline that forms the basis of all surgery," he said.

Third, the College should increase the involvement of its Fellows in ACS activities. Fourth, the College should "use its moral force, when applicable, on behalf of the Fellows in their quest for just and fair treatment," he said.

"We must never forget that the object of our affection is the surgical patient. If we ever forget that, then this Convocation Ceremony and Clinical Congress will amount to naught," Dr. Leffall said. "As we gain more experience in our profession, the romance of

the neophyte tends to dim, and what we can and cannot do are brought into sharper focus. It is with this realization that we know how important it is to give our patients hope .... and in doing so you grant them one of greatest of all human joys—the joy of anticipation that perhaps, just maybe, there is something that can be done to help them," he stated.

"It is time for a reaffirmation of fealty to the principles we surgeons hold dear and to be ever mindful of the creed emblazoned on the College Seal—*Omnibus per artem—fidemque prodesse* (to serve all, with skill and fidelity). May it be so forever," Dr. Leffall concluded.

## Dr. Murray is ACS President-Elect

**D**avid G. Murray, MD, FACS, a former Chairman of the Board of Regents, was named President-Elect yesterday afternoon at the Annual Meeting of Fellows and Initiates that took place in the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

Dr. Murray, who is professor and chairman of the department of orthopaedic surgery at the State University of New York (SUNY) Health Science Center, Syracuse, NY, will be installed as President of the American College of Surgeons at the 1996 Clinical Congress in San Francisco, CA.

Dr. Murray received a medical degree in 1955 from Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO. He continued his medical training as an intern at Vancouver (BC) General Hospital, 1955-1956; assistant resident in general surgery at Upstate Medical Center, Syracuse, NY, 1958-1959; and resident in orthopaedic surgery at State University of Iowa, Iowa City, 1959-1962.

Dr. Murray served as assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery at Upstate Medical Center, Syracuse, NY,

from 1962 to 1966. He became associate professor (1966-1969), professor (1969), and served as chairman of the department of orthopaedic surgery at that institution from 1966 to 1986.

Dr. Murray became a Fellow in 1966. He served as a Regent from 1985 to 1994, and served as Vice-Chairman (1992-1993) and Chairman (1993-1994) of the ACS Board of Regents. He has served on numerous committees of the College, including the Reimbursement Committee (1985) and Scholarships Committee (1988).

Dr. Murray is a past president of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (1982-1983) and has served as chairman of the academy's finance committee and planning and development committee. Currently Dr. Murray is president of the Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation and is a member of the board of trustees for the *American Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery*. He is also affiliated with Crouse-Irving Memorial Hospital and the Veterans Administration Hospital, Syracuse, NY.

(continued on page 2)



Dr. David Murray, ACS President-Elect, and his wife, Judith.



# Dr. Gage receives top ACS honor

**T**he highest honor awarded by the American College of Surgeons—the Distinguished Service Award—was presented to John Ochsner Gage, MD, FACS, of Pensacola, FL, at the Annual Meeting of Fellows yesterday afternoon. As a Fellow, Dr. Gage has served the ACS in several capacities. He has been a member of the Board of Governors; President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Florida Chapter; Chairman of the Board of Governors' Committee on Socioeconomic Issues; and Chairman of the Florida District I Credentials Committee. He is currently Chairman of the CPT/Relative Work Value Committee, a Cancer Liaison Physician for the Commission on Cancer, and a member of the College's

Florida Committee on Trauma.

In 1992, Dr. Gage was appointed to a six-year term as the ACS representative on the AMA/Specialty Society RVS Update Committee (RUC). His role on that committee is to represent general surgery. The purpose of the RUC is to recommend relative work values for new and revised CPT codes to the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), which considers the recommendations when it adds the codes to the Medicare fee schedule.

Dr. Gage also serves as a member of the RUC's Research Subcommittee and the Subcommittee on the Five-Year Review of the Medicare fee schedule. In addition, he was appointed chairman of the RUC's Cross-Specialty Reference List Sub-

committee. Dr. Gage also has served as one of the RUC's representatives to HCFA's refinement meetings that are held each year to review the relative work value recommendations for certain services before they are added to the Medicare fee schedule.

Earlier this year, Dr. Gage was appointed as one of the College's representatives to its Committee on Practice Expenses, which is involved in the College's practice expense study. As part of that study, Dr. Gage serves as the chairman of the ACS Clinical Advisory Panel, which is responsible for overseeing the estimation of practice expenses for selected general surgery services.

As indicated in the citation recognizing Dr. Gage's achievements, he was given the award because he has worked toward a better understanding and more equitable utilization by both surgeons and government of the CPT codes and their evaluation. He has demonstrated an admirable understanding of all government agencies, programs, rules, regulations, restrictions, and changing policies that affect medical practice.

A 1967 graduate of Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, Dr. Gage was a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy from



Dr. Gage

1974 to 1975 and served as the surgeon on the USS *Kitty Hawk*. He was an instructor of surgery at Tulane from 1981 to 1993 and has been assistant clinical professor of surgery since 1993. He concurrently serves as chief of trauma service and chairman of the trauma committee at West Florida Regional Medical Center, Pensacola, FL.

The ACS Board of Regents is pleased to recognize Dr. Gage's outstanding contributions by naming him the 1995 recipient of Distinguished Service Award.

## PRESIDENT-ELECT, from page 1



Dr. Hermann

In other actions taken yesterday, the Fellows named Robert E. Hermann, MD, FACS, Cleveland, OH, as First Vice-President-Elect, and Arthur H. Aufses, Jr., MD, FACS, New York, NY, as Second Vice-President-Elect.

Dr. Hermann is emeritus consultant and past chairman of the department of general surgery at the Cleveland (OH) Clinic Foundation. He has been a Fellow of the College since 1964, and has served as Chairman of the Board of Governors (1985-1987) and as Chair-



Dr. Aufses

man of the Committee on Development (1988-1994). He is a 1994 recipient of the ACS Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Aufses is professor and chairman of the department of surgery at the Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, NY. He has been a Fellow of the College since 1959 and has served as Chairman of the Governors' Committee to Study the Fiscal Affairs of the College (1988-1990) and as Secretary of the Board of Governors (1989-1990).

## 1996 World Congress of CICD to meet in Seoul

The 15th World Congress of CICD (Collegium Internationale Chirurgiae Digestivae) will be held in Seoul, Korea, September 11-14, 1996. For information, contact Prof. Jin-Pok Kim, Seoul National University Hospital, Seoul, Korea; fax 82-2-766-3975.

## 1997 ISS World Congress will meet in Acapulco

The International Surgical Week of the 37th World Congress, sponsored by the International Society of Surgery (ISS) and the Societe Internationale de Chirurgie will be held in Acapulco, Mexico, August 24-30, 1997. Further information regarding this international meeting may be obtained by contacting ISS headquarters at Netzibodenstrasse 34, PO Box 1527, CH-4133 Pratten, Switzerland; tel. 41-61-811-47-70/72, fax 41-61-811-47-75.

The following companies have supported the *Clinical Congress News*:

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## No detail goes unnoticed...

...Or, in this case, unappreciated. Two surgeons from Indonesia, Hafil B. Abdulgani, MD, FACS, and Widarto Binafsihi, MD, expressed their appreciation to College staff for the inclusion of the Indonesian flag on the stage during Monday's Opening Ceremony.

The surgeons spotted the flag among the 51 others assembled on the stage that surrounded the opening ceremony participants: ACS Officers, Regents, Governors, and Honorary Fellows, and representatives of numerous specialty societies. Each year, the Opening Ceremony, over which the ACS President presides, officially be-

gins and sets the tone for the Clinical Congress.

In addition to Drs. Abdulgani and Binafsihi, Dr. Kustiyo Gunawan travelled to New Orleans from Indonesia for the Congress. Dr. Gunawan was inducted into Fellowship on Thursday evening during Convocation Ceremonies.

The College staff welcomes comments regarding all of its functions. Fellows are encouraged to contact staff members either during meetings or at College headquarters in Chicago (55 E. Erie St., Chicago, IL 60611; tel. 312/664-4050).

## CME credit

The American College of Surgeons is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

The American College of Surgeons designates that this continuing medical education offering also meets the criteria for hour-for-hour credit in Category 1 as outlined by the American Medical Association for the Physicians' Recognition Award.

To record your attendance for continuing education and recertification requirements, use the card inserted in the back of the official Program Book.

## Official College ties and Fellowship jewelry

Official ACS ties and jewelry are available from Jim Henry, Inc., 435 37th Ave., St. Charles, IL, 60174; tel. 708/584-6500.



Dr. Scott Woods (above) and his wife Bette accepted the ACS Distinguished Philanthropist Award at the Seventh Annual Fellows Leadership Awards Luncheon Monday. The luncheon was held at the Omni Royal Orleans and included nearly 300 members of the Society.

In 1992, the Woods established a charitable remainder unitrust and designated the College as one of 10 beneficiaries. The Woods are one of the first members of the Mayne Heritage, a donor organization for Fellows who provide for the future of the College through a planned gift.

The Distinguished Philanthropist Award was presented to Dr. and Mrs. Woods by Mrs. Abdol Islami, the 1994 Distinguished Philanthropist.

# ACS practice management manual available

Surgeons who are entering practice today face numerous challenges. Concerns about practicing good medicine and maintaining quality relationships with patients and peers often must take a back seat to the dynamics of an ever-changing health care environment in which the surgeon must operate. Many of the challenges facing young surgeons today lie not in the realm of science, but in the socioeconomic and business arenas.

In an effort to address a lack of easily accessible, up-to-date information on practice management issues, the American College of Surgeons announces the publication of the manual *Practice Management for the Young Surgeon*. Edited by Charles D. Mabry, MD, FACS, and Irving L. Kron, MD, FACS, the manual was written by authors—many of whom are surgeons—who have expertise in the areas that most challenge the newest members of the surgical profession.

The manual is not intended to be an encyclopedic work on practice management; rather, it is designed to be a

practical guide to practice selection and the business side of surgical practice.

Additionally, throughout the text there are numerous references to selected books, articles, and educational courses that will be helpful to the interested reader.

Although the College intends this manual to be a useful reference primarily for younger surgeons, it hopes that it will be of interest to all Fellows.

The 116-page manual is divided into four major sections:

(1) *The Surgical Marketplace*: "Integrated Health Care: Where Do Surgeons Fit?" by Bruce E. Spivey, MD, FACS; "Evaluating the Marketplace," by Robert D. Brickman, MD, JD, FACS; "Determining Potential Competition/Need in Practice Area," by George Conomikes; and "Credentialing," by Sidney Tolchin, MD, FACS.

(2) *Choosing a Practice*: "Choosing a Partner or Practice," by James A. Anderson, MD, FACS; "Should I Join a Group Practice?" by Stephen K. Plume, MD, FACS; "The Health Main-

tenance Organization," by Gary M. Ferguson, MD, FACS; "Government Practice: Department of Veterans Affairs," by Martha D. McDaniel, MD, FACS; "Military Medicine," by Col. David P. Jaques, MD, FACS; "Academic Practice," by Irving L. Kron, MD, FACS; "Moving from Academics to Private Practice," by E. Christopher Ellison, MD, FACS; "Traditional Solo and Group Practice: Practical Guidelines for the Young Surgeon," by Cheryl L. Toth and Charles D. Mabry, MD, FACS; "Accounting for a Surgical Practice," by Charles D. Mabry, MD, FACS; "Insurance Coding and Processing," by Jacqueline R. Leopold; "Collections for a Surgical Practice: A Surgeon's Viewpoint," by Charles D. Mabry, MD, FACS; "Billing and Collections," by Jacqueline R. Leopold; "Distribution of Practice Revenue, Workloads, and Work Incentives," by George Conomikes; and "Personnel Management" and "Are You Ready for the ADA?" by Alan Luba.

(3) *Legal and Contractual Issues*, by Paul G. Gebhard, JD, and W. Kenneth Davis, Jr., JD.

(4) *Personal Financial Management for Young Surgeons*: "Introduction," by Hugh H. Trout III, MD, FACS; and "Managing Your Personal Finances," by Charles D. Mabry, MD, FACS.

Members of the editorial committee who worked on the development of this manual are: Irving L. Kron, MD, FACS (member, Committee on Young Surgeons); Edward R. Laws, Jr., MD, FACS (member, Board of Regents); Charles W. Logan, MD, FACS (member, Board of Governors); Margaret L. Longo, MD, FACS (member, Board of Regents); Charles D. Mabry, MD, FACS (member, Committee on Young Surgeons); Hugh H. Trout III, MD, FACS (member, Board of Governors); and Linn Meyer (Director, ACS Communications Department).

Copies of *Practice Management for the Young Surgeon* may be obtained for \$20 each in the general registration area where the *Owen H. Wangenstein Surgical Forum* is sold, or by contacting the Communications Department at College headquarters.



# ACS Regent and Governors named

**T**he ACS Board of Governors has elected Bernard Langer, MD, FACS, as a Regent of the College. Dr. Langer is a general surgeon and professor of surgery at the University of Toronto in Canada. He is also head of the surgical oncology program at The Toronto Hospital. Dr. Langer has been active on the College's Committee on Medical Motion Pictures, Program Committee, and Nominating Committee of Fellows, and has been a member of the Board of Governors since 1990. Dr. Langer will serve an initial three-year term as Regent.

Reelected to additional three-year terms as Regents were C. James Carrico, MD, FACS, Dallas, TX; Theodore Lawwill, MD, FACS, Kansas City, KS; Paul C. Peters, MD, FACS, Dallas, TX; Samuel A. Wells, Jr., MD, FACS, St. Louis, MO; and George D. Wilbanks, MD, FACS, Chicago, IL.

The Board of Governors elected Edward M. Copeland III, MD, FACS, to serve an initial one-year term as Chairman, and David L. Nahrwold, MD, FACS, to serve an initial one-year term as Vice-Chairman. Elected as Secretary for a one-year term was Charles W. Logan, MD, FACS.

In other actions, the Board of Governors named Henry L. Laws, MD, FACS, and Amilu S. Rothhammer, MD, FACS, to serve initial two-year terms on the Executive Committee. Dr. Laws is director of surgical education and president of medical staff at Carraway Methodist Medical Center, Birmingham, AL. Dr. Rothhammer is active attending surgeon at Penrose Hospital, Colorado Springs, CO.

Reelected to a second two-year term on the Board of Governors' Executive Committee was Richard Carter, MD, FACS.

In addition, the following individuals were elected Governors:

## Governors-at-Large

Henry Laws, Alabama; Steven Kilkenny, Alaska; Robert Hastings, Arizona; George Ajalat, California; Michael Shabot, California; Peter McCart, California; Stanley Klein, California; Ralph Ocampo, California; Mary McGrath, Washington, DC; Phillip Andrews, Florida; Charles Cox, Florida; Paul Oberdorfer, Florida; Duane Hutson, Florida; Robert Gongaware, Georgia; Peter Halford, Hawaii; Kent Kreuder, Idaho; Donald Ross, Illinois; Robert Inlow, Indiana; Eugene Shively, Kentucky; Benton Dupont, Louisiana; Baltej Maini, Massachusetts (two-year unexpired term ending 1997); David Rattner, Massachusetts; Floyd Barnhill, Missouri; William Karrer, Nebraska; Lucius Hill, New Hampshire; Donald Brief, New Jersey; Narayan Pai, New York; Anthony Pennisi, New York; David Beccia, New York; Patrick Dietz, New York; Charles McSherry, New



Dr. Langer, new Regent

York (one-year unexpired term ending 1996); Lowell Furman, North Carolina; James Carter, North Carolina; Sidney Miller, Ohio; Ernesto Rive-Mora, Puerto Rico; Randolph Smoak, South Carolina; Harold Fromm, South Dakota; Andrew Rittenberry, Tennessee; Phillip Pedigo, Tennessee; Ward Lane, Texas; David Pilcher, Vermont (one-year unexpired term ending 1996); William Tunner, Virginia; Lawrence Mix, Alberta; Laurence Turner, British Columbia; David Hurst, Ontario; Andre Duranceau, Quebec; Brian Colquhoun, Saskatchewan (two-year unexpired term); Enrique Beveraggi, Argentina; Ainslie Sheil, Australia; Dario Birolini, Brazil; Ricardo Sonneborn, Chile; Jose Duenas, Ecuador; John Papadimitriou, Greece; Shojaeddin Sheikholeslamzadeh, Iran; Gearoid Lynch, Ireland; Ruben Orda, Israel; Licinio Angelini, Italy; Yasuo Idezuki, Japan; Victor Gonzalez, Mexico; Ignacio Mijares, Mexico; Abdiel Marengo, Panama; Miguel Santillana Cantella,



Dr. Copeland, Chairman  
Board of Governors

Peru; Juan Piera, Spain (two-year unexpired term ending 1997); Chinda Suwanraks, Thailand; Adolfo Koelzow Jimenez, Venezuela.

## Specialty Governors

Stephen W. Perkins, American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery; Richard Winn, American Association of Neurological Surgeons (two-year unexpired term ending 1997); Michael Maves, American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Inc.; Peter Trafton, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (one-year unexpired term ending 1996); Howard Filston, American Academy of Pediatrics-Surgical Section; Barbara Bass, Association for Academic Surgery; Lewis Flint, American Association for the Surgery of Trauma; Alan Sugar, American Ophthalmological Society (two-year unexpired term ending 1997); Biemann Otherson, American Pediatric Surgical Association; Maj.



Dr. Nahrwold, Vice-Chairman  
Board of Governors

Gen. James Peake, Department of the Army; John Daly, American Surgical Association; Ronald Berggren, American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons; Mark Hardy, American Society of Transplant Surgeons; Jack McAninch, American Urological Association; Frank Padberg, Jr., Peripheral Vascular Surgery Society; Rudolph Danzinger, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada; Frederick Greene, Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons; Hervy Averette, Society of Gynecologic Oncologists; Charles Rice, Surgical Infection Society; Robert Wilkins, Southern Neurosurgical Society; Bryce Weir, Society of Neurological Surgeons (one-year unexpired term ending 1996); David Nahrwold, Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract; Bernard Gardner, Society of Surgical Oncology; William Sasser, Southern Thoracic Surgical Association; Dana Andersen, Society of University Surgeons; Bruce Brener, Society for Vascular Surgery.

## Allied Meetings

### Friday

#### American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons

9:00 am - 12:00 noon. Breakfast meeting.  
Hilton Riverside, 1st floor, Grand Salon, Suite A, Section 1.

#### American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, Public Relations Committee

12:00 noon - 1:30 pm. Luncheon.  
Hilton Riverside, 3rd floor, Oak Alley.

#### ASCRS Executive Council Meeting

3:00 pm - 10:30 pm. Meeting.  
Hilton Riverside, 1st floor, Grand Salon, Suite A, Section 1.

#### American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, Standards, Outcomes Leadership Meeting

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Meeting.  
Hilton Riverside, 3rd floor, Magnolia.

#### ASCRS Executive Council

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Dinner meeting.  
Hilton Riverside, 1st floor, Grand Salon, Suite A, Section 2.

### Saturday

#### ASCRS Executive Council

7:30 pm - 3:00 pm. Meeting.  
Hilton Riverside, 3rd floor, Horizons.

## See you next year

We hope to see you at next year's Clinical Congress in San Francisco, CA, October 6-11, 1996, or at the Spring Meeting in New York, NY, April 14-17, 1996.

## Registration totals

As of 2:30 Thursday afternoon, total registration for the Clinical Congress was 18,184. Of that number, 9,325 were physicians and 8,859 were exhibitors, guests, spouses, or convention personnel.